

1. An energy-efficient lighting apparatus, comprising:
a ballast cover;
a plurality of ballast cover holes in the ballast cover;
a circuit board comprising a plurality of light-emitting diodes, wherein the circuit board is positioned adjacent the ballast cover so that the plurality of light-emitting diodes protrude through the plurality of ballast cover holes in the ballast cover.
2. The lighting apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a battery for supplying power to the plurality of light-emitting diodes.
3. The lighting apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a switching circuit for controlling illumination of the plurality of light-emitting diodes.
4. The lighting apparatus of claim 3, wherein the switching circuit comprises:
a first portion for placing the switching circuit in communication with a wall switch;
a second portion for coupling the switching circuit to the battery; and
a third portion for coupling the switching circuit to the plurality of light-emitting diodes.
5. The lighting apparatus of claim 4, wherein the switching circuit couples the battery to the plurality of light-emitting diodes if the switching circuit is not receiving AC voltage from an AC voltage source that is coupled to the wall switch, and wherein the switching circuit does not couple the battery to the plurality of light-emitting diodes if the switching circuit is receiving the AC voltage from the AC voltage source.
6. The lighting apparatus of claim 4, wherein the switching circuit further comprises a fourth portion for receiving an alarm signal from an alarm device.
7. The lighting apparatus of claim 6, wherein the switching circuit couples the battery to the plurality of light-emitting diodes if the switching circuit is receiving the alarm signal.

8. The lighting apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a battery charging circuit for charging the battery.
9. The lighting apparatus of claim 8, wherein the battery charging circuit comprises:
a first portion for coupling the battery charging circuit to an AC voltage source; and
a second portion for coupling the battery charging circuit to the battery.
10. The lighting apparatus of claim 2, wherein the circuit board further comprises a battery test light coupled to the battery.
11. The lighting apparatus of claim 13, wherein the battery test light protrudes through one of the plurality of ballast cover holes.
12. An energy-efficient lighting apparatus for retrofit with an existing light fixture having a ballast cover, comprising:
a housing having an attachment surface and an illumination surface;
a plurality of illumination surface holes in the illumination surface;
a circuit board comprising a plurality of light-emitting diodes, wherein the circuit board is positioned adjacent the housing so that the plurality of light-emitting diodes protrude through the plurality of illumination surface holes in the illumination surface; and
a fastening mechanism for securing the attachment surface of the lighting apparatus to the ballast cover.
13. The lighting apparatus of claim 12, further comprising a battery for supplying power to the plurality of light-emitting diodes.
14. The lighting apparatus of claim 13, further comprising a switching circuit for controlling illumination of the plurality of light-emitting diodes.

15. The lighting apparatus of claim 14, wherein the switching circuit comprises:
a first portion for placing the switching circuit in communication with a wall switch;
a second portion for coupling the switching circuit to the battery; and
a third portion for coupling the switching circuit to the plurality of light-emitting diodes.
16. The lighting apparatus of claim 15, wherein the switching circuit couples the battery to the plurality of light-emitting diodes if the switching circuit is not receiving AC voltage from an AC voltage source that is coupled to the wall switch, and wherein the switching circuit does not couple the battery to the plurality of light-emitting diodes if the switching circuit is receiving the AC voltage from the AC voltage source.
17. The lighting apparatus of claim 15, wherein the switching circuit further comprises a fourth portion for receiving an alarm signal from an alarm device.
18. The lighting apparatus of claim 17, wherein the switching circuit couples the battery to the plurality of light-emitting diodes if the switching circuit is receiving the alarm signal.
19. The lighting apparatus of claim 13, further comprising a battery charging circuit for charging the battery.
20. The lighting apparatus of claim 19, wherein the battery charging circuit comprises:
a first portion for coupling the battery charging circuit to the AC voltage source; and
a second portion for coupling the battery charging circuit to the battery.
21. The lighting apparatus of claim 13, wherein the circuit board further comprises a battery test light coupled to the battery.
22. The lighting apparatus of claim 21, wherein the battery test light protrudes through one of the plurality of illumination surface holes.
23. The lighting apparatus of claim 12, further comprising:

a connector in the attachment surface of the housing that snaps into a ballast cover hole in the ballast cover; and
wires connecting the circuit board to the battery through the connector.

24. The lighting apparatus of claim 12, wherein the fastening mechanism comprises an adhesive strip having a protective cover.

25. A method for providing illumination to an area in an energy-efficient manner, comprising:

providing a ballast cover, the ballast cover having a plurality of ballast cover holes, the ballast cover being attachable to a light fixture;

providing a circuit board comprising a plurality of light-emitting diodes; and

positioning the circuit board adjacent the ballast cover so that the plurality of light-emitting diodes protrude through the plurality of ballast cover holes in the ballast cover.

26. The method of claim 25, further comprising illuminating the plurality of light-emitting diodes when a light bulb within the light fixture is not illuminated.

27. The method of claim 25, further comprising not illuminating the plurality of light-emitting diodes when a light bulb within the light fixture is illuminated.

28. The method of claim 25, further comprising:

receiving an alarm signal from an alarm device; and

in response to receiving the alarm signal, illuminating the plurality of light-emitting diodes.

29. A method for retrofitting a light fixture with an energy-efficient lighting apparatus, the light fixture having a ballast cover, the method comprising:

providing a housing having an attachment surface and an illumination surface, wherein
the illumination surface comprises a plurality of illumination surface holes;
providing a circuit board comprising a plurality of light-emitting diodes;
positioning the circuit board adjacent the housing so that the plurality of light-emitting
diodes protrude through the plurality of illumination surface holes in the
illumination surface; and
securing the attachment surface of the housing to the ballast cover.

30. The method of claim 29, further comprising illuminating the plurality of light-emitting diodes when a light bulb within the light fixture is not illuminated.

31. The method of claim 29, further comprising not illuminating the plurality of light-emitting diodes when a light bulb within the light fixture is illuminated.

32. The method of claim 29, further comprising:
receiving an alarm signal from an alarm device; and
in response to receiving the alarm signal, illuminating the plurality of light-emitting diodes.